

From: ["Thomas. Hattie" </O=EXCHANGELABS/OU=EXCHANGE ADMINISTRATIVE GROUP \(FYDIBOHF23SPDLT\)/CN=RECIPIENTS/CN=B1EBAFC79FA94F308D9F6EBB0424E75A-THOMAS.HATTIE>](mailto:Thomas.Hattie@EXCHANGELABS/OU=EXCHANGE ADMINISTRATIVE GROUP (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/CN=RECIPIENTS/CN=B1EBAFC79FA94F308D9F6EBB0424E75A-THOMAS.HATTIE)
To:
CC:
Date: 10/28/2013 3:53:37 PM
Subject: OPA Daily Digest 10/28/13

OPA Daily Digest for 10/28/13

Congressional Inquiries:

Sen. Roy Blunt (Mo.) 9/25/13. Constituent concerns about property that they own considered as an abandoned hazardous waste site. Due: 10/9/13. Contact: LaTonya Sanders, 7555 (open)

Sen. Claire McCaskill (Mo.) 9/23/13. Subcontractor complaints of payments not received for work done for lead removal at North County Schools in St. Francois County. Due: 10/9/13. Contact: LaTonya Sanders, 7555 (open)

State Government Inquiries:

Gov Sam Brownback (Kan) – 10/23/13: Support for 604B funds to be provided to KDHE. Contact: Sarah Hatch, 7199 (open)

Gov Dave Heineman (Neb) – 10/23/13: Support for 604B funds to be provided to NDEQ. Contact: Sarah Hatch, 7199 (open)

Gov Jay Nixon (Mo) – 10/23/13: Support for 604B funds to be provided to MDNR. Contact: Sarah Hatch, 7199 (open)

Sen. Kiki Curls (Mo) – 10/28/13: Question on EPA activities related a facility in Kansas City. Contact: Sarah Hatch, 7199 (closed)

Press Inquiries:

Nebraska Public Radio – Ariana Brocious – 10/24/13: Questions about Nebraska Army Ammunition Plant and other Superfund sites in Nebraska. Contact: Ben Washburn, 7364 (closed)

Webb City (Mo.) Sentinel – Bob Foos – 10/17/13: Questions about reports of a contractor stopping work at an EPA Superfund site in the Joplin area because of disputes with suppliers or subcontractors. Contacts: Debbie Kring, 7725; Chris Whitley, 7394 (open)

KCUR (Kansas City Public Radio) – Matthew Long-Littleton – 10/25/13 – Request for on-air interview regarding Nov. 4 public listening session on exiting power plant emissions. Contact: David Bryan, 7443 (open)

KMOV Channel 4, St. Louis – Russell Kinsaul – 10/28/13: Questions about the West Lake Landfill Site, Bridgeton, Mo. Contact: Chris Whitley, 7394 (closed)

Environmental Stories:

Kansas City Star - Mitigate environmental impact of South Lawrence Trafficway - 10/27/13 - The long-term effect of the South Lawrence Trafficway on nature and its neighbors won't be known for years. At this point, there is no going back. But KDOT must be sure to work with the communities involved going forward.
<http://www.kansascity.com/2013/10/27/4577116/mitigate-environmental-impact.html>

Des Moines Register - Iowa View: We must take climate change action now - 10/27/13 - Let's push our government — at the city, state and federal levels — to make the changes we need to make as leaders in the world, to sustain and prevent further climate change. We owe this to all children and their children's children. The time to act is now.
<http://www.desmoinesregister.com/article/20131027/OPINION01/310270074/1035/>

Show-Me Daily (blog) - The EPA And Kansas City - 10/25/13 - Most people know that as a result of foot dragging from Kansas City politicians, the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) sued the city over our antebellum sewer system. As a result, our already inefficient and Byzantine water department will be increasing our rates in order to pay for the overhaul — whenever that happens. <http://www.showmedaily.org/2013/10/the-epa-and-kansas-city.html>

Associated Press - Iowa dairy settles with EPA on alleged violations - 10/25/13 - Federal officials say a northwest Iowa dairy accused of violating the Clean Water Act will pay a \$20,000 civil penalty. The Environmental Protection Agency said Friday that the money settles alleged violations by County Edge Dairy Inc. at its Inwood facility.
<http://www.kwwl.com/story/23792268/iowa-dairy-settles-with-epa-on-alleged-violations>

Missourian (Columbia, Mo.) - Sullivan Firm to Pay Settlement in EPA Case - 10/26/13 - Ritchie Enterprises Inc., a Sullivan, Mo., company doing business as PuroClean Emergency Restoration Services, has agreed to pay a \$30,000 civil penalty to settle allegations that it failed to use proper lead-safe work practices.
http://www.emissourian.com/article_3cb26ee1-887e-559b-a9f6-0802bb12a178.html

Washington Times - In EPA's grip, coal industry is headed to Washington - 10/27/13 - Besieged by the Obama administration and its host of new environmental regulations, the U.S. coal industry is beginning to fight back. <http://www.washingtontimes.com/news/2013/oct/27/in-epas-grip-coal-industry-is-headed-to-washington/>

The Hill (blog) - Businesses flock to White House ahead of biofuel rule - 10/25/13 - Officials at the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) have been busy meeting with chemical and energy companies in recent days, ahead of the expected release of new biofuel standards. <http://thehill.com/blogs/regwatch/energyenvironment/330695-businesses-flock-to-white-house-ahead-of-biofuel-rule->

Brownfield Ag News - Tour examines Iowa farmers' efforts to improve environment - 10/25/13 - The Iowa Soybean Association's Environmental Discovery Tour Thursday was, in some cases, a first exposure to what farmers do to reduce nutrients on the land. <http://brownfieldagnews.com/2013/10/25/tour-examines-iowa-farmers-efforts-improve-environment/>

Brownfield Ag News - Ethanol industry nervously awaits EPA's 2014 biofuels proposal - 10/25/13 - Sometime in the next couple of weeks, the EPA is expected to release its 2014 biofuels proposal under the Renewable Fuels Standard (RFS). <http://brownfieldagnews.com/2013/10/25/ethanol-industry-nervously-awaits-epas-2014-biofuels-proposal/>

Hutchinson News (Kan.) - Blowin' in the wind | Growth projected, but there's still uncertainty ahead - 10/28/13 - Thanks to near record low prices for wind-generated electricity, U.S. wind development is once more expanding, a national wind energy group reports. <http://hutchnews.com/Todaystop/wind-report-says-things-looking-up>

Wichita Business Journal - Wichita Mid-Continent Airport sustainability program wins award - 10/25/13 - Wichita Mid-Continent Airport on Friday announced that its sustainability program has been named the winner of the 2013 Airports Going Green Award. <http://www.bizjournals.com/wichita/news/2013/10/25/wichita-mid-continent-airport.html>

Des Moines Register (blog) - Developers Knapp, Cownie sign 400-acre conservation easement in WDM - 10/25/13 - Business leaders in West Des Moines have struck a unique partnership to help preserve water quality, improve wildlife habitat and enhance future community development.
<http://blogs.desmoinesregister.com/dmr/index.php/2013/10/25/developers-knapp-cownie-sign-400-acre-conservation-easement-in-wdm>

Omaha World-Herald - Scrap recycler opens up shop at former Air Force storage center in Lincoln - 10/25/13 - The new Lincoln branch of scrap recycler Sadoff Iron & Metal Co. is on a reclaimed site that was once home to a U.S. Air Force fuel storage center. <http://neprepzone.com/article/20131025/MONEY/131029034>

Des Moines Register - Use of renewable chemicals in consumer products is booming - 10/26/13 - The growth of renewable chemicals such as rosemary extract has been spurred by a volatile marketplace for petroleum, a common ingredient used to make packaging. <http://www.desmoinesregister.com/article/20131027/BUSINESS/310270016/1029/>

Salina Journal (Kan.) - Governor orders planning, action; conference brings tips from Nevada desert - 10/25/13 - Challenges of growth, debilitating drought (and) a catastrophic economic collapse taught us what adaptation is all about. <http://www.salina.com/news/guv-water-conference--102413>

Missouri DNR (release) - Department of Natural Resources plans public meetings, comment period on 2014 list of impaired waters - 10/28/13 - The Missouri Department of Natural Resources is seeking the public's input on the biennial draft list of impaired waters and the methods used to develop future lists. <http://content.govdelivery.com/accounts/MODNR/bulletins/91be87>

Inside EPA - EPA Study Renews Focus On 'Emerging' Releases From Livestock Facilities - 10/28/13 - EPA has quietly released a scientific review on the constituents of livestock and poultry manure that focuses on the potential human health impacts from pathogens and emerging contaminants. <http://insideepa.com/Superfund-Report/Superfund-Report-10/28/2013/epa-study-renews-focus-on-emerging-releases-from-livestock-facilities/menu-id-128.html>

SmartPlanet - U.S. support of grid energy storage charges up - 10/26/13 - We all know the electrical grid will need storage capacity to accommodate a larger share of power from variable wind and solar generators. But the date for this development is no longer in some distant, hand-wavy future. It's coming, and it's coming fast. <http://www.smartplanet.com/blog/take/us-support-of-grid-energy-storage-charges-up/1335>

Greentech Media - How New Regulatory Models Could Help Utilities Thrive and Survive - 10/28/13 - A new report calls for regulations to change so utilities can innovate—and protect customers along the way. <http://www.greentechmedia.com/articles/read/how-new-regulatory-models-could-help-utilities-thrive-and-survive>

Associated Press - ND spills went unreported; state testing website – 10/27/13 - North Dakota, the nation's No. 2 oil producer behind Texas, recorded nearly 300 oil pipeline spills in less than two years, state documents show. None was reported to the public, officials said. <http://bigstory.ap.org/article/ap-newsbreak-100s-nd-oil-spills-not-publicized>

Fox News - First public auction for solar energy rights on federal lands draws no bids - 10/26/13 - Federal officials are trying to figure out why the Bureau of Land Management's first-ever auction of public land for solar-energy development failed to attract any bids. <http://www.foxnews.com/politics/2013/10/26/colorado-solar-auction-draws-no-bids/>

Grist - Nature vs. nature: Is “green infrastructure” the best defense against climate disasters? - 10/28/13 - The Nature Conservancy has become a vocal champion of using “green infrastructure” to protect urban areas from storm surges and other side effects of climate change. <http://grist.org/cities/nature-vs-nature-is-green-infrastructure-the-best-defense-against-climate-change/>

National Geographic - Can International Mercury Treaty Cut Poison Risk? - 10/26/13 - Much of the world agrees that mercury contamination is a major public and environmental health concern, but experts say the devil may lie in the details. Reducing mercury use and environmental levels won't be a quick process. <http://news.nationalgeographic.com/news/2013/10/131026-mercury-minamata-treaty-pollution-environment/>

Chemical & Engineering News - Protecting Workers - 10/26/13 - Federal workplace safety regulators push a volunteer program for safer chemical substitution, tighter exposure limits. <http://cen.acs.org/articles/91/web/2013/10/Protecting-Chemical-Industry-Workers.html>

Wall Street Journal - Energy Boom Puts Wells in America's Backyards - 10/25/13 - More than 15 million Americans now live within one mile of a fracking well. The shale boom is creating conflicts between those who are profiting from the wells and those who aren't. <http://online.wsj.com/news/articles/SB10001424052702303672404579149432365326304>

E&E News PM - EPA report seeks to help communities on green infrastructure - 10/25/13 - U.S. EPA today released a report aimed at helping communities better assess the benefits of using trees, green roofs and rain gardens to soak up water before it overwhelms municipal sewer systems. <http://www.eenews.net/eenewspm/stories/1059989452/feed>

E&E News PM - GSA OKs another certification system for federal properties - 10/25/13 - The landlord of the federal government is recommending the use of a second green building certification system for government buildings. <http://www.eenews.net/eenewspm/stories/1059989455/feed>

AgWeb - Editor's Notebook: More Is Changing Than We Realize - 10/26/13 - Much of agriculture has a blind spot to the labyrinth of regulations, policies and court mandates that will redefine how we farm—and perhaps whether we farm. Those threats range far and wide and target every facet of commercial agriculture. http://www.agweb.com/article/editors_notebook_more_is_changing_than_we_realize_NAA_Catherine_Merlo/

Biofuels Digest - Farmers now harvesting biomass for Project LIBERTY opening - 10/27/13 - In Iowa, farmers are now harvesting and delivering cob bales for the 2014 opening of Project LIBERTY in Emmetsburg. The 20 million gallon per year POET-DSM plant will use corn crop residue – cobs, leaves, husk and some stalk – to produce renewable fuel. <http://www.biofuelsdigest.com/bdigest/2013/10/27/cob-bales-delivered-in-2013-14-will-be-used-to-produce-cellulosic-ethanol/>

E&E Daily - Coal backers, lawmakers plan blitz against EPA rules - 10/28/13 - Pro-coal groups and lawmakers are planning a blitz tomorrow against U.S. EPA rules affecting the industry, particularly a proposal to regulate greenhouse gas emissions for new power plants and another expected to extend such scrutiny to existing generators. <http://www.eenews.net/eedaily/stories/1059989474/feed>

New York Times - Updates on America's Persistent Air and Water Pollution Challenges - 10/25/13 - There are still enormous, if largely hidden, health and environmental costs in many parts of the United States that have failed to meet the goals set decades ago under the Clean Air Act and Clean Water Act. <http://dotearth.blogs.nytimes.com/2013/10/25/updates-on-americas-persistent-air-and-water-pollution-challenges/>

Washington Post - Virginia's Sen. Mark Warner requests study of shutdown costs - 10/25/13 - A top Democrat has called on Congress's investigative wing to calculate the fiscal impacts of the 16-day slowdown in federal operations. <http://www.washingtonpost.com/blogs/federal-eye/wp/2013/10/25/virginia-sen-mark-warner-requests-study-of-shutdown-impacts/>

USAgNet - Senators Aim to Reduce Some EPA Regulations - 10/28/13 - U.S. Senator Kay Hagan is leading a bipartisan group of 12 senators in urging the Senate Agriculture Committee to include a provision in the 2013 Farm Bill that eliminates a duplicative Environmental Protection Agency regulation on pesticides. <http://www.wisconsinagconnection.com/story-national.php?Id=2444&yr=2013>

BNA - House Republicans Press EPA to Hold More Power Plant Forums in Coal Regions - 10/28/13 - Thirty-nine Republican House members have asked the Environmental Protection Agency in a letter to schedule additional listening sessions in regions with strong coal interests regarding its forthcoming carbon dioxide emissions standards for existing power plants. http://news.bna.com/deln/DELNWB/split_display.adp?fedfid=37628449&vname=dennotallissues&jd=a0e2v5q8y2&split=0

BNA - Two House Democrats Urge OMB Action On Guidance for Fracking With Diesel Fuel - 10/28/13 - Two congressional Democrats gave the White House Office of Management and Budget an extra nudge Oct. 25 to encourage action on proposed permitting guidance from the Environmental Protection Agency on hydraulic fracturing when diesel fuel is used. http://news.bna.com/deln/DELNWB/split_display.adp?fedfid=37628457&vname=dennotallissues&jd=a0e2v5v9p3&split=0

BNA - Rural Water Group Asks Congress To Clarify Intent of Lead Reduction Act - 10/28/13 - The National Rural Water Association asked members of the House and Senate committees with jurisdiction over drinking water to clarify the intent of the Reduction of Lead in Drinking Water Act. http://news.bna.com/deln/DELNWB/split_display.adp?fedfid=37628448&vname=dennotallissues&jd=a0e2v5q1r1&split=0

BNA - Biofuels Industry Officials Meet With OMB To Oppose Efforts to Weaken Ethanol Rule - 10/28/13 - Renewable fuels industry representatives met with White House Office of Management and Budget officials Oct. 23 to push back against the petroleum industry's arguments for scaling back requirements for blending renewables into U.S. fuel

supplies in 2014. http://news.bna.com/deln/DELNWB/split_display.adp?fedfid=37628466&vname=dennotallissues&jd=a0e2v7n5f7&split=0

BNA - Electronic System for Tracking Waste Could Increase Burdens, Oil Industry Says - 10/28/13 - The petroleum industry is concerned that the Environmental Protection Agency's electronic tracking system for hazardous waste shipments could increase regulatory burdens and costs unless it is modified.

http://news.bna.com/deln/DELNWB/split_display.adp?fedfid=37628444&vname=dennotallissues&jd=a0e2v5m2z8&split=0

BNA - EPA Postpones Advisory Panel Meetings - 10/28/13 - The Environmental Protection Agency has postponed a pair of scheduled FIFRA Scientific Advisory Panel meetings and said it intends to reschedule the meetings soon, according to a pair of notices scheduled for publication in the Federal Register Oct. 28.

http://news.bna.com/deln/DELNWB/split_display.adp?fedfid=37628438&vname=dennotallissues&jd=a0e2v5e2x4&split=

Inside EPA - EPA Proposes To Back Industry Plan Easing PCB Waste Rules At Utility Sites - 10/25/13 - EPA is considering granting a proposal by a national energy utilities group to give energy companies the flexibility to dispose of remediation wastes with low levels of polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs) in municipal solid waste (MSW) landfills.

<http://insideepa.com/Superfund-Report/Superfund-Report-10/28/2013/epa-proposes-to-back-industry-plan-easing-pcb-waste-rules-at-utility-sites/menu-id-128.html>

Inside EPA - EPA Readies Draft Groundwater Cleanup Framework For Talks With States - 10/25/13 - EPA is drafting a framework that will provide regulators with a "systematic process" for evaluating progress made in operating costly groundwater cleanup remedies.

<http://insideepa.com/Superfund-Report/Superfund-Report-10/28/2013/epa-readies-draft-groundwater-cleanup-framework-for-talks-with-states/menu-id-128.html>

Inside EPA - Appellate Case Highlights Limits Of CERCLA 113 Cost Recovery Claims - 10/25/13 - Mining giant ASARCO is appealing a district court ruling that rejected its contribution claims against other potentially responsible parties (PRPs) at a Colorado Superfund site because the claim was time-barred.

<http://insideepa.com/Superfund-Report/Superfund-Report-10/28/2013/appellate-case-highlights-limits-of-cercla-113-cost-recovery-claims/menu-id-128.html>

Inside EPA - Democrats Seek Quick OMB Review Of EPA Fracking Guide - 10/25/13 - House Democrats are urging the Office of Management & Budget (OMB) to swiftly approve EPA's final guidance on permitting hydraulic fracturing operations using diesel fuels.

<http://cleanenergyreport.com/201310252450986/Clean-Energy-Report-Blog/Clean-Energy-Wire/democrats-seek-quick-omb-review-of-epa-diesel-fracking-guide/menu-id-204.html>

Inside EPA - Advocates Reject Study's Claim Of Narrow Focus On Clean Tech Deployment - 10/25/13 - Environmentalists are rejecting a technology think tank's claims that they are overly focused on how to deploy existing clean energy technology to mitigate climate change while neglecting research into new technologies.

<http://cleanenergyreport.com/201310252450868/Clean-Energy-Report-Daily-News/News/advocates-reject-studys-claim-of-narrow-focus-on-clean-tech-deployment/menu-id-202.html>

Inside EPA - Congress Poised For Debate Over NEPA Streamlining For Water Projects - 10/25/13 - An upcoming House-Senate conference committee is facing a debate over how to streamline environmental reviews for water resource projects after the House Oct. 23 backed a bill authorizing Army Corps of Engineers' projects without language in the Senate version of the bill that allows the Corps to penalize agencies if they are slow to complete reviews.

<http://insideepa.com/201310252450989/EPA-Daily-News/Daily-News/congress-poised-for-debate-over-nepa-streamlining-for-water-projects/menu-id-95.html>

Press Releases:

Link to all R7 press releases: <http://go.usa.gov/Qx5>

HBD/Thermoid Inc. Agrees to \$371,075 Settlement for Alleged Violations of Clean Air Act at Chanute, Kan., Facility – 10/28/13 – Contact: Ben Washburn, 7364

La EPA anuncia fondos de tecnologías verdes innovadoras para estudiantes – 10/28/13 - Contact: Ben Washburn, 7364

Fact Sheets:

Link to all R7 fact sheets: <http://www.epa.gov/region7/factsheets>

None

Upcoming Administrator/RA Events:

* New additions noted with an asterisk

***11/7/13** – CFC Kick-Off Event, Regional Office. Contact: Becky Dolph, 7281

11/14/13 – National Association of Farm Broadcasting Trade Talk, Kansas City, Mo. Contact: Kris Lancaster, 7557

12/16/13 – Interagency Environmental Leadership Council, Kansas City, Mo. Contact: Ron Hammerschmidt, 7566

***12/3/13** – SES National Executive Leadership Development Conference, Washington DC. Contact: Becky Weber, 7487

12/9/13 – Region 7 Senior Management Retreat, Kansas City, Mo. Contact: Wendy Lubbe, 7551

12/19/13 – Four State Directors Meeting, Regional Office, Wendy Lubbe, 7551

DRA:

10/31 –11/1/13 - Executive Management Council Meeting, Washington, DC Contact: Dana Peters, 7444

***12/3/13** – SES National Executive Leadership Development Conference, Washington DC. Contact: Becky Weber, 7487

12/9/13 – Region 7 Senior Management Retreat, National Archives at Kansas City, Mo. Contact: Wendy Lubbe, 7551

12/19/13 – Four State Directors Meeting, Regional Office, Wendy Lubbe, 7551

RA/Immediate Office

None

Other Events

AWMD

***11/4/13** – Green House Gas Listening Session, Regional Office, Josh Tapp, 7606

CNSL

None

ECO/EJ

11/1/13 – EJ Presentation at Children's Mercy Hospital, Kansas City, Mo. Contact: Althea Moses, 7649

***11/4-5/13** – Green Impact Zone Essential Employability Skills Training, Kansas City, Mo. Contact: Althea Moses, 7649

***12/4 – 12/6/13** – Senior Enforcement Managers Meeting, Washington, DC. Contact: DeAndre Singletary, 7373

ENSV

None

PLMG

None

RA/OPA

None

SUPR

***11/20-22/13**: Oversight of pre-construction activities West Lake Landfill, Bridgeton, Mo. Contact: Matthew Jefferson, 7520

***11/20/13**: Public availability session to discuss DOD vapor intrusion investigation St. Louis Ordnance Plant, St. Louis, Mo. Contact: Matthew Jefferson, 7520

WWPD

10/27/13 - Association of State Drinking Water Administrators Annual Conference, Long Beach, Calif. Contact: Stan Calow, 7410

10/29/13 - Source Water Protection Workshop, focus on nitrates, Nebraska City, Neb. Contacts: Stephanie Lindberg, 7423, Morris Holmes, 7421

10/31/13 – Iowa Association of Business and Industry speech and panelist, Des Moines, Iowa. Contact: Karen Flournoy, 7782

11/4-6/13 – Annual Council of Infrastructure Financing Authorities (CIFA) Conference, Minneapolis, Min. Contacts: Glenn Curtis, 7726, Sabre Germano, 7026

11/6/13 – Missouri Water Quality Standards Effluent Regulations Hearing, Jefferson City, Mo. Contacts: Bob Angelo, 7060, John DeLashmit, 7821

11/6-7/13 – Nebraska Water Environment Association (NWEA) workshop, Kearney, Neb. Contact: Glenn Curtis, 7726

11/18/13 - National Capacity Development & Operator Certification Workshop, Atlanta, Ga. Contact: Bob Dunlevy, 7798

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